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TO: Mail Stop: AMENDMENT
Examiner: Vani Gupta
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

FROM: Douglas P. Mueller

OUR REF: 10873.1936USWO

TELEPHONE: (612) 455.3800

Total pages, including cover letter: 7

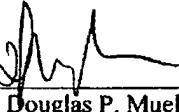
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Title of Document: **Amendment and Response (6 pages)**

Applicant: HIRAYAMA
Serial No.: 10/598198
App. Filed: August 21, 2006
Group Art No.: 3768

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S/N 10/598,198

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	Hirayama et al.	Examiner:	Vani Gupta
Serial No.:	10/598,198	Group Art Unit:	3768
Filed:	August 21, 2006	Docket No.:	10873.1936USWO
Title:	ULTRASONIC PROBE		

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.6(d):

I hereby certify that this paper is being transmitted by facsimile to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on March 24, 2009.

By: Melissa Zarns
Name: Melissa Zarns

Mail Stop: AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed December 30, 2008, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are shown in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 4 of this paper.